

Message Text

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46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 L-02 OES-03 CG-00 OFA-01

DLOS-03 DOTE-00 COME-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EPA-01 INR-07 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03

SS-15 SP-02 FMC-01 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 TRSE-00 /083 W

----- 001374

R 230515Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2391

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 1660

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, PLOS, IMCO, MY, ID, SN

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY TRIPARTITE MEETING ON STRAITS

REFS: (A) STATE 087918; (B) SINGAPORE 1646

1. REGRET EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN ANY INFO TO DATE ON QUESTIONS POSED REFTEL. PRINCIPAL GOS EXPERTS IN THIS FIELD ARE CURRENTLY ATTENDING LOS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA. HOWEVER DEPTUY SECRETARY MFA TAN BOON SENG HAS BEEN ATTENDING A MEETING IN TOKYO WITH GOJ AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM IMS GOVERNMENTS TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS. WE UNDERSTAND FROM ACCOUNTS IN INTERNATIONAL PRESS THAT THIS MEETING HAS LARGELY BEEN CONFINED TO REVIEWING RESULTS OF SURVEY, PRODUCING AN AGREED CHART OF STRAITS, AND DISCUSSING SIGNIFICANCE OF FINDINGS.

2. TAN BOON SENG IS EXPECTED TO RETURN FROM TOKYO MEETING APRIL 23 OR 24, AND WE WILL SEEK APPOINTMENT ASAP

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TO REVIEW WITH HIM RESULTS OF MEETING AS WELL AS

QUESTIONS POSED REFTEL.

3. GIVEN PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED GOS INTEREST IN DELAYING
IMPOSITION OF RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF STRAITS
UNTIL AFTER GENEVA LOS CONFERENCE, WE NORMALLY WOULD
HAVE ASSUMED THAT IMS GOVERNMENTS WOULD NOT COLLECTIVELY
TAKE ANY IMMEDIATE DECISIONS OR SUBMIT ANY URGENT
RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMCO AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, GIVEN
LATEST OIL TANKER COLLISION IN SINGAPORE STRAITS
REPORTED REF B, GOS MAY DECIDE IT SHOULD GO ALONG WITH
EARLY ACTION ON TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME AND POSSIBLY
OTHER RESTRICTIONS IF GOM AND GOI EXERT STRONG PRESSURE.
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05 JUL 2006

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